

RAC Invitation Letter

Dear Chairperson:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is in the process of developing a national strategy for ensuring environmentally responsible off-highway vehicle (OHV) use and management. The goal of the strategy is to take a collective look at the OHV program bureau-wide and provide guidance to aid in solving local OHV management issues. A critical piece of the national strategy development is public participation.

We plan to have a series of public meetings across BLM, and provide opportunities for written and electronic comment to gather ideas, solutions and comments. We will be encouraging the public to use a mailer we will provide for their use in giving us written comment. Electronic comment can be given via the national web-site at www.blm.gov, where other materials will be posted for their information. The national strategy time-line calls for public comment to be submitted by August 31, 2000. All public comments will be analyzed and used to help create guidance by November 30, 2000. This guidance will serve as a “toolbox” for local land managers to apply to various OHV management issues at the local level.

A key component of public participation is the involvement of the Resource Advisory Councils (RAC). There are several options for RAC involvement, including:

- RAC-sponsored public meeting(s) to gather comments and submit data to the Washington Office comment manager;

RAC-sponsored public meeting(s) to gather comments, then pass a resolution based on the public comment;

No public meeting hosted by RAC. RAC may pass a resolution based on topics in mailer if desired.

Communication materials are available at the *[particular]* State Office for your use in conducting the public involvement process, including a power point presentation, talking points, a briefing paper on the national OHV strategy and others to help guide discussion and comment submission.

I look forward to the discussion of any participation you would like to provide in the national OHV strategy. If you have any questions, I can be reached at *[phone number]* or at the above address.

State Director Signature